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R U L E S
A N D
C O N S T I T U T I O N S
O F T H E
Maiden Hospital,
Founded by the
C R A F T S - M E N
O F
E D I N B U R G H,
A N D
M A R Y E R S K I N.

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Successors of Andrew Anderson,
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lent Majesty. 1707.



Preface.

THE Infinite wise Creator and Supreme Ruler of the World, hath for holy and Excellent ends, thought fit to make a discernible Difference in the Stations and Circumstances of the Children of Men while they are in a state of Trial in this Lower World. Higher and Subordinate Powers are Ordained of him ; Magistracy is his Ordinance Instituted by him, that there might be a Regular Disposal of a Beautiful Fabrick of human Societies ; And therefore it may be justly called 1 Peter 2. 13. An Ordinance of Man, a human Creature or Structure; The Glorious Gospel of our Redeemer doth not destroy, but firmly Establish this Divine constitution

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stitution of Superioritie and Inferioritie, even amongst those that are the Adopted Sons of his Father, and joynt Heirs with himself of the same Heavenly Kingdom. The Words of the Apostle 1 Tim. Chap. 6. ver. 1, 2. are a plain Proof of this, Let as many Servants as are under the Yoke, count their own Masters worthy of all Honour : that the Name of God and his Doctrine be not Blasphemed, and they that have believing Masters, let them not despise them, because they are Brethren, but rather do them Service, because they are faithful and beloved partakers of the benefites ; And as the Sovereign Lord hath for the Good of Mankind, appointed that there should be Rulers and Subjects, Governours and those
that

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that are Governed; So it hath pleased him, in the unsearchable Wisdom of his Providence, to make such a Distribution of the Good things of this Life, as some should have a Larger, some a Lesser share of them, and others should be left to be Provided for by the Compassionate care of their Richer fellow Rational Creatures; So that this Varietie that is in the Circumstances of Men as to the Comforts of this Earth, is in spotless Righteousness ordered by unerring Wisdom, which is admired and exalted in a High strain of Praise by the Great and Religious King David, 1 Chron. 29. 10, 11, 12. And it is Sung by Holy Hannah to the Praise of the wise Management of the Great God, 1 Sam. 2. 7. The Lord maketh
Poor

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Poor and maketh Rich, he bringeth low and lifteth up. The Righteous Lord who is pleased to Order thus the Affairs of Men as to this Life, hath in his Goodness given many Excellent Directions for our Conduct in the Management of our selves, with a Respect to one another in our several Stations and Circumstances in this World; And it is a very Comprehensive one which we have, 1 Pet: 3. 8, 9. Finallie be all of one Mind, be unanimously concerned for the Glory of your God and Redeemer, in a Conformity to the Principles of true Religion, having Compassion one of another, Love as Brethren, be pitiful, be Courteous. No Man how Rich and Great soever he be, can justly pretend to have an absolute Power

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Power to dispose of what he possesseth according to his meer Will and Pleasure; he is to have an awful Regard to the Rules prescribed to him by the most High God the possessor of Heaven and Earth, who will Vindicate the Honour of his own Laws, and be avenged upon the Ob-
stinate and Proud contemners thereof. It is his Royal Law, that every Man should Love his Neighbour as himself, and the Sanction of it is of a frightful import, he shall have Judgment without Mercy that hath shewed no Mercy, *Ja. 2. 8, 13.* It is not left to those that have not only the Necessaries, but the Conveniencies of Life, to be Charitable or not as they please, to such as are Indigent, The Earth is the Lords and the fulness

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fulness thereof. He hath Reserved to himself the Sovereign Proprietie of both, and parcells them out to the Children of Men, as seemeth good to him ; But always with this Clause in their Lease, that out of their Store they shall according to their Ability and Circumstances supply the wants of the Indigent, as they would not lose their Right and Title to what they possess, and provoke their Supreme Lord to Curse them in the City and in the Field, in their Basket and in their Store, in the Increase of their Kine and Flocks of their Sheep, and permitt them to be only oppressed and crushed always to such a Degree that they shall be mad for the sight of their Eyes which they shall see, Dent. 28.

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16, 17, 18, 34. I am obliged in Charity to be persuaded, that the serious Consideration of these things, hath Influenced the Inhabitants of the Honourable City of Edinburgh, both Merchants and Craftsmen, to give an Exemplary Proof of their Concern for the Glory of God, for the Honour of the Holy Religion which they profess, and for the publick good of their City in particular, and the Land of their Nativitie in General, both as to their Religious and Civil Interest, to do what was in their Power, for supplying what was Defective as to Charitable Foundations for the Support, and the Virtuous and Christian Education of Female young Ones; Which otherways, when come to riper Age, might through Povertie

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and

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and Want, become a prey to Temptations to Wickedness, and be a Reproach to Christianity, and a Scandal to their Nation, a Plague to Families and Societies, and bring the Eternal Wrath of God upon themselves. Such Charity as doth plainly tend to keep off heavy Judgments from City and Countrey, cannot well be misplaced, as that which is bestowed upon those of a mature age, may often be, through it's being abused to the Encouragement of Idleness and Sloth.

The Good, Regular and Advanced State that the Crafts-men of this City, have by their Diligent Care & the Bounty of their several Incorporations, with the Liberal Assistance of the Worthy late Mary Erskin, have brought their pious Foun-

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Foundation of a Maiden Hospital to, cannot but have some weight to prevail with Compassionate Christians, to give their helping Hand to such a pious and useful Work.

I am Sensible that there have been so many excellent Discourses upon the subject of Charity and Beneficence, that any thing that I can pretend to say upon it, can only be a Repetition of what hath been said to much better purpose, by many others; Yet seing it is not so much through Ignorance of what Men ought to know, as by want of thought and reflection with a Respect to what they do know, that they are often Guilty of an inexcusable Neglect of many important Duties, which as Christians they are obliged to perform; I shall only by

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way of Remembrance, stir up the Minds of those, that have not cast off all Regard to Religion, to ponder the weight of the Arguments, by which it urgeth such a Compassionate Regard to our Indigent Neighbours, as do's go beyond a mere saying, be you warmed, be you filled. The Holy Scriptures teach us, that God himself is pleased to take the Poor under his peculiar Care and Protection, Psal. 10. 14. The Poor Com-mitteth himself to thee, thou art the helper of the Fatherless; and Psal. 68. 5. He is a Father of the Fatherless, and a Judge of the Widow, in his Holy Habitation; We are told, Prov. 17. 5. That he that mocketh the Poor, Reproacheth his Maker; He Robbeth him of the Honour, of the Wisdom,

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Wisdom, of his Government ; Shall we then have no Compassion upon those, that are so much considered by the God of Heaven. This Almighty Creator hath in his great Goodness, put such Honour upon Human Nature, That he hath prescribed by our being kind and Beneficent to one another, as a part of Worship paid to himself, Ja. 1. 27. Pure and Undeiled Religion or his Worship is to Visit the Fatherless and the Widow ; Charity is not indeed an expiatorie Sin-Offering ; But it is a Christian Sacrifice, a Thank-Offering well-pleasing to God, Heb. 13. 16. It is a high Honour that the Glorious God puts upon those, who by his Blessing upon their Lawful Endeavours, have plenty of the good things of

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of this Life, or by his kind Providence have an Inheritance conveyed to them from their Progenitors, that he Substitutes them as Managers for him ; Leaving to their care a part of his World, and requiring them to Act like himself as his Representatives; And as Compassion is his Delight, so he would have it theirs too ; Is not this a great Dignitie ? And shall Mortal Creatures so disparrage it, as to Act in Direct Opposition to the plain Design of it, by having little or no Regard to the Circumstances of those that are Objects of Pitie and Commiseration, how will they Answer for it, when called to give an Account of their Stewardship ? It is an Unaccountable follie, that any should think, that they can never
be

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be secure against Poverty and Want, but by scraping together at any Rate Riches and Wealth, without any concern to support their starving Neighbours. The Righteous Governor of the World, hath in his Providence, given Remarkable Proofs of his Indignation against this Foolish Imagination and Mad Practice, which he hath suffered many of these heaping and distrustful Earth Worms, to Live and see their own Misery; Whereas it hath been found, that Liberal Men have stood by liberal things, seeing then that the distinction, as hath been said, that is in the Circumstances of the Children of Men as to the Comforts of this Life, is an Ordinance of the Almighty Creator; Let us by having Bowels of Compassion to-
ward

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wards the Distressed and Indigent, Testify the Honour and Regard we have to the Sacred Constitution of the Supreme Law-giver, and our Gratitude to our Greatest Benefactor; Let us thus make it Appear, that we give entire Credit to his Word, and that we have a full Confidence in the Wisdom, Goodness and Faithfulness of his Government; Let us Imitate and Encourage this Example of pious Charity, of which the following Paper gives us an Account; An Example that ought to be the more Valued and Regarded, because it is given by those, who generally do, even by a Laborious Industry, make but a Moderat gain: And it must be allowed, that the Incorporations of the Crafts-men of Edinburgh have given a visible prooff, in their so Largely Contributing to the Charitable Foundation

of

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*of a Maiden Hospital, that they are Careful to maintain good Works while they Work with their Hands, that they may not only not be Burthensome to others, but may have to give to him that needeth; And that their Laudable Practice, and the Consideration of what is Suggested in these Lines, may have some Weight to Influence many to do Good, to be Rich in Good Works, and to give their Chearful Assistance for the Promoting of this, and other such like great and Religious Works of Extensive Charity; Is the earnest prayer of,
Your Faithful Well-wisher in the Lord,*

W. C.

R U L E S
A N D
C O N S T I T U T I O N S
O F T H E
Maiden Hospital,

*Founded by the Craftsmen of
Edinburgh, and Mary Erskin.*

TH E Free-men of the In-
corporations of the
Craftsmen of *Edin-
burgh*, taking to their
serious Consideration, that there
were Funds settled and provided
for the Education and Mainte-
nance of the Male Children of De-
cayed

cayed Burgeſſes of the Burgh, and for the Female Children of Decayed Merchants; but nothing for the Female Children of Decayed Craftſ-men of the ſaid Burgh. They after ſeveral Meetings thereanent, did, about three Years ago, unanimoſly reſolve to have an Hoſpital for the Daughters and Grand-children of the Female Sex of decayed Craftſ-men, who are not able to maintain themſelves, and for other poor Maidens who ſhall be preſented by perſons who ſhould contribute to ſo Good and Pious a Work. And upon the third of *May* 1704, they procured an Act from the Council of *Edinburgh*, approving of their ſo Pious and Charitable Reſolution; and declaring

claring they would give all due
 Encouragement thereto. Upon
 which the Incorporations, by
 their several Contributions, ha-
 ving purchased and acquired some
 Houses and Yards in *Edinburgh*,
 for so pious an Use, did cause fit
 and prepare one of these Houses
 for an Hospital, and have alrea-
 dy settled therein Twenty Three
 Girls, with a Governess, and
 School-Mistress and Servants:
 And having now procured an
 Act of Parliament, authorizing
 the Incorporations in carrying on
 so Pious and Laudable a De-
 sign, &c. whereof the Tenor
 follows ; “At *Edinburgh* the
 ‘Twenty Fifth day of *March* One
 ‘Thousand Seven Hundred and

Seven Years, “ Our Sovereign
 Lady, with Advice and Con-
 sent of the Estates of Parliament
 Considering, that there is a pious
 and Laudable Design now carry-
 ing on by the Incorporations
 of the Craftf-men of *Edinburgh*.
 and others who joyn with them,
 Authorized by the Town Coun-
 cil of the said Burgh by their
 Act dated the third day of May,
 1704 Years, for Founding
 and Erecting a Hospital for the
 Maintenance and Education
 of the Female Children and
 Grand-Children of Decayed
 Craftf-men and others to be
 presented by persons who give
 Donations thereto, which may
 be of a General Advantage, and
 especially to the City of *Edin-*
burgh;

burgh; Therefore Her Majesty
 with Advice and Consent fore-
 said, do hereby Allow and Au-
 thorize the said Incorporations
 of the Craftsmen of *Edinburgh*
 and others Joyning, or who
 shall Joyn with them to meet
 as oft as Occasion Requires, and
 to make such Rules and Consti-
 tutions for the carrying on, and
 Supporting of the said Hospital
 allennarly, as they shall find
 Just and Convenient; *As also,*
 to settle such Funds, as well
 out of their Publick Boxes be-
 longing to their respective Ad-
 ministrations, as private Estates
 as they shall think fit, and to
 Receive Mortifications or Do-
 nations, from any person who
 shall be pleased to Contribute
 thereto

‘ thereto ; The said Rules and
 ‘ Acts to be made by them, be-
 ‘ ing always consistent with the
 ‘ Laws of the Kingdom, and
 ‘ with the Acts and Constitutions
 ‘ of the City of *Edinburgh* ; And
 ‘ *Statutes* and *Ordains* the said
 ‘ Rules and Constitutions, to be
 ‘ made by them to be as valid and
 ‘ effectual to all Intents and Pur-
 ‘ poses, for the Ordering and
 ‘ Governing of the Hospital
 ‘ abovementioned, as if they
 ‘ were Particularly exprest and
 ‘ set down in this Act ; *Where-*
 ‘ *anent*, Her Majesty with Ad-
 ‘ vice and Consent foresaid, Dis-
 ‘ penses for ever : And *Further*,
 ‘ Her Majesty, with Advice and
 ‘ Consent foresaid, *Ordains* and
 ‘ *Declares*, the foresaid Hospital
 when

when set up and settled in it's
 Constitutions, and Directors
 and Overseers, to be a Free
 Hospital, for the pious use fore-
 said ; *With Power* to the said
 Hospital, and it's Overseers
 and Directors, not only to Ad-
 ministrat the Funds and Rents
 appertaining thereto ; But like-
 ways to purchase and acquire
 Lands, Tenements and others,
 for the farder Good and Ad-
 vantage thereof ; And for that
 end, to Make, Grant and Re-
 ceive all manner of Deeds and
 Writes, Necessary for that Ef-
 fect : And to have a Seal if they
 shall think needful, and with
 such Inscriptions as they shall
 appoint for the Confirmation
 of the saids Deeds ; And Gene-
 rally

‘ rally to have all such Powers,
 ‘ Liberties and Immunities of a
 ‘ Free Hospital, for pious uses, as
 ‘ any other Hospital for the
 ‘ like uses hath, or by the Law
 ‘ may have within this Kingdom.
 ‘ Extracted furth of the Records
 ‘ of Parliament, by me Sir *James*
 ‘ *Murray* of *Philiphaugh*, one of
 ‘ the Senators of the Colledge of
 ‘ Justice, Clerk to the Parliament,
 ‘ and to Her Majestys Councils,
 ‘ Registers and Rolls. *Sic Sub-*
 ‘ *scribitur* Ja. Murray, *Cls. Reg.*

After obtaining the foresaid
 Act of Parliament, the forenam-
 ed Pious and Worthy *Mary Ers-*
kin Relict of *James Hair* Druggist
 Burgefs of *Edinburgh*, (who was
 the first who Projected and
 Destinated Funds for *Maiden*
Hospitals

Hospitals in the City of *Edinburgh*)
 Gave and Granted a great and
 Considerable Donation to the
 Hospital ; For which it is unani-
 mously agreed, that She shall be
 assumed unto the Title as a
 Founder of the Hospital, and that
 two of the Name of *Erskin*, shall
 be for ever Governours there-
 of, to be Named by the said
Mary Erskin during Her Life,
 (and who hath accordingly Nam-
 ed Master *James Erskin* of
Grange one of the Senators of
 the Colledge of Justice, and
 Master *David Erskin* Advocat for
 all their Life-times ;) And after
 Her Death by the Representa-
 tive of the present Family of
Mar, under whatever Designation
 it may then happen to be ; And
 that

that the said *Mary Erskin* during Her Life, and after Her Death, the two Governours of her name, shall have the Presentation of all the Girls whom she hath Right to present, conform to Her Donation ; And that the Eldest of the Governours of the said Name, shall preside in absence of the Conveener, and shall keep one of the three Keys of the Hospitals Charter-house, as the Right and Disposition made and granted by the said *Mary Erskin* in Favours of the Hospital at more length bears.

In Pursuance of that part of the Act of Parliament anent the Rules and Constitutions, the Deacon Conveener, Remanent Deacons of the several Incorporations

porations of the Craftf-men of *Edinburgh*, Contributors, and the two Trades Counsellors and others joyned with them, and the said Lord *Grange* and Mr. *David Erskin*, after several meetings and serious Consideration, Have unanimously Agreed and Resolved upon the Rules following, viz.

I.

The Freemen Craftf-men of *Edinburgh*, and the said *Mary Erskin*, being the Founders of the Hospital, the same shall now and in all time coming, in all Inscriptions, Acts, Contracts, or othe Writes, be Named and called the *Maiden Hospital* Founded by the Craftf-men of *Edinburgh*, and *Mary Erskin*.

II.

II.

The Deacons for the time of the several Incorporations, Contributors to this good Work, and the two Trades Counsellors, and two of the Name of *Erskin* (nominated, as is hereafter declared) are perpetually to be Governours of the said Hospital. And there shall be chosen (in manner as is hereafter appointed) Yearly on the second *Monday* of *October*, as many as with the saids Deacons, two Trades Counsellors, and two of the Name of *Erskin*, shall make up Twenty and Seven Persons, and these Persons elected are also to be Governours of the said Hospital, during one Year next ensuing their Election; and

and in case of the removing of any of these elected Governours by Death, or otherways, the other Governours for the time shall, by plurality of Votes, choose a Person to supply the Vacancy. The Conveener for the time is to preside in all Meetings, and in his Absence, the Eldest Governour of the Name of *Erskin* is to preside ; and in Absence of both, a Preses is to be chosen by Vote.

III.

The Governours to be yearly elected, shall be chosen by the saids Deacons of the Incorporations, Two Trades Counsellors, and two Governours of the Name of *Erskin*, and every Donator who gives

gives 2000 Merks to the Hospital, shall, during his Life, and after his Death, any he shall appoint by Write, have a Vote in Electing these yearly added Governours; As also, the saids Donators shall have a Vote in any other Concern of the *Hospital* at a general Meeting of the Governours, and they themselves shall also be capable to be elected Governours.

IV.

The present Deacons of the Incorporations, Contributors, and the two present Trades Counsellors, and the Lord *Grange*, and Master *David Erskin* Advocat, Named by the said *Mary Erskin*, to be Governours during all the Days of their Lifetime, and these

these now joyned with them ;
 And none else are to have the full
 Administration and Government
 of the *Hospital* and whole Estate
 thereof, until the said 2^d. Monday
 of *October*, which is to be the
 first Annual Council-day of E-
 lecting the New Governours, to
 be joyned to the Deacons and
 Trades Counsellors, and two
 Governours of the Name of
Erskin, who are to be perpetual
 Governours, as said is. But none
 of the Governours are to have
 Vote or Interest in the Concerns
 of the *Hospital*, either for Rents
 or Election or any other thing,
 until they take the Oath follow-
 ing, which is to be Administrat
 by the Clerk, first to the Deacon
 Conveener, or Preses for the
 D time ;

time ; And by the Deacon Con-
 veener or Preses to all the rest
 of the Governours. I A. B. Do
*Faithfully Swear and Promise be-
 fore God, that to the best of my
 Knowledge and Power, I shall Carry
 and Demean my self in all Matters
 which concern the Election of the
 Officers or Schollars, or any thing
 else belonging to the Maiden Hof-
 pital, Founded by the Crafts-men
 of Edinburgh and Mary Erskin,
 Truly and Honestly. And if I
 know any going about at any
 time to Defraud or Prejudge the said
 pious Work, I shall obstruct it to
 my Power, and reveal it to the
 Governours for the time. So help
 me GOD.*

The meetings anent the Elections or other concerns of the *Hospital*, shall either be in the *Hospital*, or *Magdalen Chappel*, or some other convenient place, to which the Conveener for the time shall think fit to cause warn them.

VI.

Upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, there shall be chosen by the then Deacons and two *Trades Counsellors*, and two *Governours* of the Name of *Ers-kin*, and the New *Governours* to be chosen and added to them that day by plurality of Votes, an sufficient and qualified Man to be *Treasurer* to the said *Hospital* for one Year, whose Office shall be

to Receive all the *Hospital's* Rents,
 to keep all Stock and Money be-
 longing to the *Hospital*, to pay
 Wages and Allowances due to
 the Officers and Schollars, or any
 other thing belonging to the *Hos-
 pital*, to look Diligentlie to the
 Reparations of the Buildings of
 the *Hospital*, to deliver Weekly
 to the Mistrefs, so much Money
 as may provide the Dyet of the
 whole *Hospital*, for that Week;
 And to take in an Accompt each
 Week how the same is depurs-
 ed WITH POWER to him to
 Control or Allow, what Ac-
 compts relates to the *Hospital* as
 he finds Just; And the Treasur-
 er before he exerce in presence of
 the Governours shall Solemnly
 Swear.

Swear the following Oath. I
A. B. *Elected Treasurer of the
Maiden Hospital Founded by the
Crafts-men of Edinburgh and Mary
Erskin, do Swear and Faithfully
Promise with my best Skill and
Power, to Discharge all that is Re-
quired of Me by the Statutes of the
said Hospital, Truly and Honestly.*
So help me GOD. And Captain
John Wightman Skinner Burgefs
of *Edinburgh*, being formerly
chosen Treasurer, and having
given his Oath for Faithful Ad-
ministration, is to continue in
that Station until the first An-
nual Election, being the said se-
cond Monday of October next to
come ; And it is hereby Declar-
ed and Ordained, that a Trea-
surer, serving the said Hospital
without

without Fee or Sallary, shall have a Vote as other Governours, He being always a Benefactor, and his Donation Recorded.

VII.

The Treasurer may be continued two years, or more, if the Governours shall think fit to Elect him of New yearly; and he shall yearly make his Accompts of his whole yearly Intromissions, & give in the samen to the Auditors the first *Monday* of *October* yearly, who shall be obliged to deliver in the saids Accompts with their Report of the samen to the Governours, the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, being the Annual Meeting: And the Governours of the *Hospital* are to finish

finish and conclude their Approving or Disproving of the same Accompts, before the admission of the New Governours for the year ensueing ; And at his Removal from his Office, he shall deliver up to the succeeding Treasurer all Accompts and Papers which belong any way to his Office, or may give insight for Discharging the same, which are to be kept in good Order, allowing always the Benefactors who are alive for the time and after their Death, whom they shall appoint by Write to be present if they please with the said Auditors, in their Auditing the same Accompts. If the Treasurer shall Die, or by any Necessity be Removed, the Governours shall with-

within eight days of his Death or Removal, proceed to the Election of a New one.

VIII.

Upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, there shall be chosen by the Deacons of the Incorporations who are Contributors, and the two Trades Counsellours for the time, and the two Governours of the Name of *Erskin*, and these to be added to them who are the Governours for the ensueing year, Nine of themselves, to be a Committee, for the more easy manadging of the Considerable Affairs and Concerns of the *Hospital*; And five of these nine to be a *Quorum*, and Auditors of the Treasurers
and

and all other Accompts belonging to the *Hospital*, and for taking in the Treasurers Accompts Monthly, and preparing of the samen, that they may be the more readily Audited and Discharged at each years end, upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly. And the Treasurer with any five of these nine, are Impowered to Order and Manadge all the smaller Affairs of the *Hospital*, and to meet as oft for that Effect as they think fit; Which nine or their *Quorum*, are to choise their own Preses at their Meetings; but as to the matter of Election of the Governours, or anent the Rents of the *Hospital*, or the Government thereof, or any other great Concern

cern of the same, all the Governours that are in Town for the time, shall be Warned by the Officer of the *Hospital* to the Meetings thereanent ; And what shall be concluded, by Plurality of Votes, shall stand in Force, there being always present at these Meetings no less than fifteen of the Governours. It is Declared that the Governours for the time, may be present at all Committees and Sub-committees, if they think fit, whether Warned or not, and Speak, Advise, and Vote therein.

IX.

Upon the Death, Demission, or Deprivation of the Clerk, at least within 20 days thereafter, there is to be chosen another Clerk to the said

Hospital

Hospital to continue during Life and good Behaviour, who shall keep in good Order, and Digest all the Evidents and other Papers belonging to the *Hospital*, and make and keep Books of a full and particular Record thereof, and to attend the Meetings, and form what Orders and Resolutions are done therein, and take the Oath in the same Form as is exprest in the Oath of the Treasurer, *Mutatis Mutandis*. And upon his Death or Removal, the Governours shall proceed within Twenty days to the Election of a New one, the Clerk is to have paid quarterly to him by the Treasurer the Sum of

And *William Brown*
Writer

Writer in *Edinburgh* being formerly Chosen Clerk, and given his Oath for Faithful Administration, is to continue in that Station during his Life and Faithful Administration.

X.

The present Governours have already Elected and Settled an Old Gentlewoman Named *Isobella Grant* Relict of *Francis Forbes* Gentleman, who voluntarily offered her Service to so Charitable a Work *Gratis* ; She is to continue in that Station during her Life and good Behaviour, and after her Death or Removal, the Governours for the time are within *Fourty* days to supply her place, by Electing another fit
and

and qualified person for that Station. The said *Isobella Grant* and these who succeed to that Office, are to take care that the Schollars and Servants be brought up in the Fear of God, and shall Catechise and Instruct the Schollars in the Principles of the Christian Reformed Religion ; And Correct them for Faults when Occasion requires, and shall take in the Weekly Accompts, and deliver the same to the Treasurer, with her Opinion thereanent ; They are to be Unmarried persons not under *Fourty* years of Age, before their Admission; they shall be obliged to take the Oath following. I
*A. B. Elected Mistress and Govern-
 ness of the Maiden Hospital Foun-
 ded*

*ded by the Crafts-men of Edinburgh
 and Mary Erskin, Do Swear and
 Faithfully Promise before God, that
 to my best Power I shall Discharge
 all which the Statutes of the said
 Hospital require from me ; And
 shall do my best to see all the Statutes
 of the said Hospital observed by
 others whom they do Concern, and
 do Promise faithful Obedience to the
 present Governours of the said Hos-
 pital and their Successours in Office.
 So help me GOD. After which
 she is to get Possession of the
 Mistress's Lodgings by some of the
 Governours, and publickly in
 presence of the Children and Ser-
 vants, Declared Mistress and
 Governess ; and they Com-
 manded to give her all Obedience,
 under the pain of being expelled
 from*

from the *Hospital*; She is to have her Dyet at a Table cross at the Head of the other, and shall not be any Night out of the *Hospital* without the leave of two at least of the Governours, and shall have a Care to see the whole Chambers and Office-houses kept Clean and Neat; If she marrie, her place thereby shall become Void, or if she be convicted of any Scandal before the Governours she shall be deposed; If at any time she be found Remiss and Negligent, she is to be publicly admonished thereof by the Governours, which Admonition is to be Registrat, and if there after she Offend in like manner, she is to be deposed; and if through Infirmary or Old Age she

she become incapable to exercise
 the Office, which is to be cognosc-
 ed by the Governours, she is to
 be Respectfully dismissed: But
 if she have served above Ten
 years and not able to maintain
 her self, she is to be allowed
 Lodging and Maintenance in the
Hospital during her Life, if she
 please to accept thereof. In
 case of her Deposition, Death
 or Demission, the Governours are
 to proceed to the Election of a
 New Mistress or Governess with-
 in Forty Days thereafter; The
 Governesses succeeding to the
 said *Isobella Grant*, are to Re-
 ceive Quarterly from the Trea-
 surer the Sum of

XI.

The present Governours have already Elected and Settled *Isobell Forbes* Daughter to the said *Francis Forbes* Gentleman to be School-mistress, who is to continue in that Station during her Life and good Behaviour, whose Office and her Successors shall be to teach the Children to Read, Work Stockings, Lace, coloured and white Seam, Spinning, Carding, Washing and Dressing of Linens, Dressing of Meat, Cleaning of House, and all sort of Needle-work and other ordinary House-hold Thrift ; And if they can to teach the Girls also Writing, Arithmetick, and the Common parts of Vocal Musick, And

if Women cannot be found to teach the whole Arts and Virtues abovementioned, then the Governours are to provide an Honest Man for some part thereof, to come to the *Hospital* at such Hours as shall be appointed and thought Convenient, who is to be Satisfied for his pains by the **Treasurer**; For the Schoolmistresses their qualities of Life, good Report, &c: and for the manner of their Election, Admission, Admonition, Deposition and Election of a New one in their place; It shall in all points be observed as is expressed in the Rules which concern the the Governesses, they must be unmarried and each of them shall Receive

Receive from the Treasurer
Quarterly the Sum of

XII.

The Governours for the time,
shall have Power to Cognosce and
and Judge any Transgression and
Fault committed by the Treasur-
er, Clerk, Governess, and School-
mistress, and consider whether the
same merits Deprivation or not,
and Determine accordingly.

XIII.

There shall be chosen a Wo-
man of Good and Honest Report
to be Cook to the *Hospital*, she
shall be charged with the clean &
exact dressing of the Victuals,
Two or Three of the Children
who are Educated in the *Hospital*,

shall be time about appointed by the Mistrefs to be present and assist at the dressing of the Victuals, that they may Learn to handle Meat Neatly ; She shall have the keeping of all *Utencils* belonging to the Kitchen delivered to her by Inventory ; she shall deliver up her Accompts for Bread, Drink, Candle, and other things belonging to her Charge to the Mistrefs Weekly, or as oft as she shall be required ; she shall be chosen in manner forefaid, & continue during pleasure allanerly ; she shall Receive from the Treasurer Quarterly the Sum of
 for her Wages ; And as to the rest of the Servants that may be needful for the said *Hospital*, it
 is

is left to the Governours discretion to provide such, and give them such Allowances as they shall think fit.

XIV.

There shall be Chosen and Admitted into the said *Hospital*, so many Children as the Revenue of the said *Hospital* shall be able to maintain, *Deductis Deducendis*. And these Girls presented by the Incorporations, are to be the Children or Grand-children of the Freemen Craftsmen of their own Incorporations, which failing, any other they please, of whose Poverty and Need of the help of the *Hospital*, the Incorporation who presents them are to be Judges; but the Donators to the *Hospital*

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who

who have Right to present, by giving a Donation of 2000 *Merks* may present any Girl they think fit, whether Craftf-mans Daughter or not, it being made appear to the Governours or their Committee before mentioned, by a Declaration under the Hand of the Donator who hath Right, and presents a Girl, that she is an Object of Charity; which Declaration shall be a sufficient Instruction of her Poverty. For each 2000 *Merks* Donation, the Person giver thereof during his or her Life, and after their Death any they shall appoint by write, hath a Title to present a Girl, and as oft as the presentation shall Vaick, they shall have the Renewing thereof; And if any two Persons shall jointly

joyntly give in 2000 *Merks* of their own proper means, they shall have the presenting of a child *alternis vicibus*, or as they shall Agree ; The Girls to be admitted to the *Hospital* must be Whole-
som and Sound of their Body at their Entry, and capable to Learn, and must not be under seven years of Age, nor above Twelve years when they Enter ; And are to continue in the *Hospital* until they be Eighteen years of Age and no longer : And each of them at their Entry must be Decently Apparrelled at the sight of the Governours and Treasurer; and when that Apparel is worn, their Apparel afterwards is to be all of one Piece, without distinction of Persons, and as plain

plain as may be, and all of one Collour, and with such Mark as the Governours shall appoint ; But when they go out of the *Hospital* at Eighteen years of Age, they are to be Cled in New Apparel distinct from what they did wear in the *Hospital*, each Girls Apparel not exceeding the Sum of an Hundred Merks Scots, which is to be paid by the Treasurer. The ordinary time of Receiving in of the Girls is to be the first *Monday* of *November* yearly, when it is to be considered by the Governours what Vacancies there are, and how many the Estate and Revenue of the *Hospital* is able to Maintain, that so many Qualified as is before exprest be then taken in, who shall

shall have Lodging, Bed, Dyet, Washing and Common Fires allowed to them, beside their being Educated and Taught in manner aforefaid : And shall be Comely and Decently Apparelled both in their Cloaths and Linnings.

XV.

In Respect frequent losses fall out in Lending Money, it is Enacted and Appointed, That no Money belonging to the said *Hospital*, be laid out or Employed but by an Act of the Governours, Voted by way of Billeting ; And that either for purchassing of Land, or Lent upon real Security of Land reputed free of Incumbrances, or to the Town of *Edinburgh* on the Towns Security, or to

to any other Three Responsal Persons upon their Bond, bound Conjunctly & Severally, Providing the Sum Lent to these Three Persons do not exceed Five Thousand Merks.

XVI.

It is hereby Declared, That the Blanks for Fees or Sallaries in the forelaids Rules and Constitutions may be filled up by the Governours after due Consideration and Experience of what may be fuitable to be allowed.

XVII.

It is hereby Ordered and Appointed, that each Donators Name and Designation shall be put up in the Hall of the said
Hospital

Hospital in Gold Letters, and the Sum mentioned there which they gave in Donation.

XVIII.

That there be a Room one or more set apart for the sick Children, to be kept separat from the other Children, and that every sick Child have a Bed by her self.

XIX.

That the Donators who have the Right and Title to Present upon a Vacciencie may have timeous Advertifement ; There shall be a Broad affixed upon the Principal Entry of the *Hospital*, giving Notice to which Person the Presentation falls.

It being Necessary that the Rights, Evidents and other writes of Importance belonging to the said *Hospital*, be kept Safe and in good Order ; And likewise, when there shall be at any time, through God's Blessing, a greater Sum lying *in Specie*, than what is like to be necessary for defraying the ordinary Expences, it were hard that the Treasurer should be troubled with so great a Charge : Therefore both with respect to the Papers and Money, it is Recommended to the Governours with their Conveniencie, to order a pended Room in the *Hospital*, to be made all Stone, with a good Fire-light, and a Door of Iron, with three different Locks and

and Keys ; One whereof to be kept by the Deacon Conveener for the time, another by the Eldest Governour of the Name of *Erskin*, and one by the Treasurer of the *Hospital* for the time.

XXI.

It is Declared, That for the better Establishing and Ordering this Good and Pious Work, by setting the Rules thereof, after due experience, in the best manner, that the Governours (and all Contributors if they think fit) are to meet every year at *Edinburgh* in the Hall of the *Hospital*, upon the 2^d. Monday of *January*, beginning the first yearly Meeting upon the 2^d. Monday of *January*,
 One Thousand seven Hundred &
 eight

eight years. At these Meetings it shall be Leisume to these Convened, providing their Number be seventeen or more, to re-consider the foresaids Articles and Rules, and to add thereto, and Order whatever they find Just and Necessar for the good of the *Hospital*, the samen being always consistent with the fore-mentioned Rules and Constitutions, and particularly these in Favours of the said *Mary Erskin*, as they are contained in the forementioned Disposition made by her to the said *Hospital*, and these Additions and Orders to be Determined by the plurality of Votes of these Convened. And it is Declared Leisum to all Ladys and other Women, who are or shall be Benefactors

factors to the *Hospital*, to have their Proxies in the said yearly Meetings, they always having written Mandats for that Effect.

XXII.

The Articles and Rules before-mentioned and set down, Consisting of eight Pages in the Principal Subscribed Rules, each page thereof being Signed by *Gilbert Somervel* present Deacon Conveener, and Mr. *James Erskin* of *Grange* one of the Senators of the Colledge of Justice, are unanimously Agreed to, and settled in manner foresaid. We the present Governours and Contributors Subscribers hereto, Bind and Oblige us and our Successors, who shall be Concerned in the *Hospital*, to keep and observe the same faithfully and firmly, according to

to the true Meaning and Intent thereof; *Declaring*, that the Persons who shall afterwards Subscribe and Contribute for Advancing the said good Work, may likewise at the same time Subscribe to these presents; And if need be's, That afterward a Ratification of the foresaids Rules and Constitutions (or as they shall be Amended) may be procured from the Parliament, which is Recommended to the Governours of the *Hospital* for the time, to see done. In Witness whereof, We have Subscribed these Presents with Our Hands, at *Edinburgh* the ninth Day of *September*, One Thousand seven Hundred and seven Years.